

Serial No. 09/805,483
Filed March 13, 2001
Response to Final Office Action

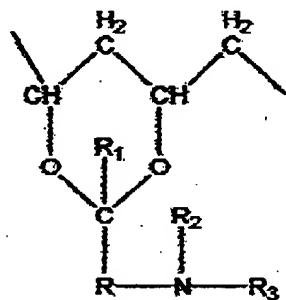
Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 51-57 and 59. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 39-50, and 58 are pending in the application.

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Listing of the Claims

1. (previously presented) A microparticle formed from macromers having a polymeric backbone comprising units having a 1,2-diol or 1,3-diol structure and at least two pendant chains bearing crosslinkable groups.
2. - 4. (cancelled)
5. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the backbone polymer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) and copolymers thereof.
6. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the macromer has the formula:



in which R is a linear or branched C₁-C₈ alkylene or a linear or branched C₁-C₁₂ alkane; R₁ is hydrogen, a C₁-C₆ alkyl, or a cycloalkyl; R₂ is hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl; and R₃ is an olefinically unsaturated electron attracting copolymerizable radical having up to 25 carbon atoms.

7. (cancelled)
8. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, further comprising an active agent.
9. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 8, wherein the microparticle releases the active agent over a period of time ranging from about 1 day to 6 months.
10. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the microparticle is biodegradable.
11. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, further comprising a contrast agent.

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12. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the crosslinkable groups are crosslinked via free radical polymerization.

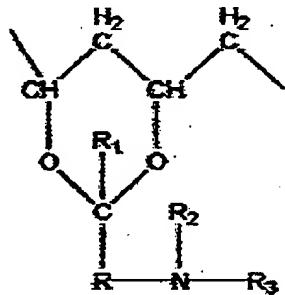
13. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 11, wherein the free radical polymerization is redox initiated.

14. - 38. (cancelled)

39. (previously presented) A hydrogel biomedical article formed from macromers having a polymeric backbone comprising units having a 1,2-diol or 1,3-diol structure and at least two pendant chains bearing crosslinkable groups, wherein the crosslinkable groups are crosslinked via redox initiated free radical polymerization.

40. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the backbone polymer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) and copolymers thereof.

41. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the macromer has the formula:



in which R is a linear or branched C₁-C₈ alkylene or a linear or branched C₁-C₁₂ alkane; R₁ is hydrogen, a C₁-C₆ alkyl, or a cycloalkyl; R₂ is hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl; and R₃ is an olefinically unsaturated electron attracting copolymerizable radical having up to 25 carbon atoms.

42. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, further comprising an active agent.

43. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 42, wherein the hydrogel releases the active agent over a period of time ranging from about 1 day to 6 months.

44. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the hydrogel is biodegradable.

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45. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, further comprising a contrast agent.

46. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of a catheter, tubing, vascular graft, heart valve, suture, prosthesis, dialysis membrane, filter, sensor, wound dressing, and drug delivery article.

47. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the article is a microsphere.

48. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the hydrogel is a coating.

49. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the article is formed in a mold.

50. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 39, wherein the article is formed on a substrate.

51. - 57. (cancelled)

58. (previously presented) The hydrogel biomedical article of claim 51, wherein the article is a microsphere.

59. (cancelled)